

Message Text

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65

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3596

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, MX

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - MEXICAN PRESS COVERAGE OF US-MEXICAN BILAT-
ERAL AIR AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS

REF: MEXICO 3058

1. COVERAGE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS OF THE U.S.-MEXICAN BILATERAL
AIR AGREEMENT IN MEXICO CITY MARCH 1-8, 1976 BY THE MEXICO
CITY PRESS HAS BEEN GENERALLY MODERATE IN BOTH QUANTITY AND
IN TONE, AS FOLLOWS:

2. SECRETARY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION(SCT) ING.
EUGENIO MENDEZ DOCURRO WAS QUOTED ON MARCH 9, 1976 AS SAYING
THAT THE AGREEMENT WOULD BE EXTENDED FOR ONE YEAR, AND THAT
MEXICO WAS DISPOSED TO GRANT THE U.S. FIFTH FREEDOM RIGHTS
AS LONG AS IT RECEIVED IN RETURN QUOTE SOMETHING THAT WOULD
BENEFIT MEXICAN AIRLINES END QUOTE. HE ALSO NOTED THAT
WHEN THE CURRENT AGREEMENT WAS APPROVED BECAUSE OF TIME
PRESSURES THE U.S. RECEIVED FOUR NEW ROUTES WHICH THEY HAVE
YET TO USE. THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION (DGAC)
ING. JOSE RODRIGUEZ TORRES WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT QUOTE
THE SWORD OF DAMOCLES IS NOW REMOVED FROM OVER OUR HEADS END
QUOTE, AND THAT THERE WILL BE MORE OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE
THE DISCUSSIONS WITHOUT THE PRESSURE OF TIME. THE DGAC SAID
FURTHER THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS WOULD CONTINUE IN MEXICO ONCE
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BOTH DELEGATIONS CONSULTED WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS,

INASMUCH AS QUOTE SOME POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS HAVE ALREADY BEEN
SKETCHED OUT END QUOTE.

3. AN ANONYMOUS SPOKESMAN FOR THE SCT STATED IN THE PRESS ON
MARCH 11, 1976 THAT THE TWO DELEGATIONS WOULD MEET IN APRIL
AT A PRECISE TIME AND PLACE YET TO BE DETERMINED QUOTE EXCLU-
SIVELY AT A TECHNICAL LEVEL END QUOTE. MEANWHILE, EMBASSY HAS
LEARNED THAT THE GOM SECRETARY OF TOURISM JULIO HIRSHFELD
ALMADA IS UPSET OVER THE FAILURE TO REACH AN AGREEMENT AND
WILL MAKE THIS HIS QUOTE PERSONAL CAMPAIGN END QUOTE WHICH
WILL INCLUDE REPRESENTATIONS TO GOM PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA.
MANUEL SOSA DE LA VEGA, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF MEXICANA, MEAN-
WHILE CONTINUES IN STRONG OPPOSITION TO A NEW AGREEMENT,
ESPECIALLY ONE THAT WOULD COST HIS COMPANY ITS MONOPOLY ON
THE LOS ANGELES-GUADALAJARA ROUTE.
THOMPSON

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